

**6 Johnson Drive
Finchampstead**

Report for:
Mr K Brant
6 Johnson Drive
Finchampstead
Wokingham
RG40 3NW

INTRODUCTION

Overview

AA Environmental Limited (AAe) has been commissioned by Mr Brant to produce a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) for the above site. This LEMP has been produced using the Nature Conservancy Council document¹ as a guide, with the intention to enhance the value of the site by creating a range of new habitats/opportunities for wildlife. The Plan also details the sympathetic management of these features to maximise their ecological value in the long term. In addition, this report will provide the information to assist with discharging Condition 17 attached to planning (Wokingham Borough Council application ref: 232595) which states²:

A long-term landscape and ecological management plan (LEMP) including long term design objectives, management responsibilities, timescales and maintenance shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority prior to the commencement of the development. The content of the LEMP shall include schedules for Landscape Wildlife Area and Landscape Wildlife Corridor and any other area other than privately owned domestic gardens, the following.

- a) Description and evaluation of features to be managed.*
- b) Ecological trends and constraints on site that might influence management.*
- c) Aims and objectives of management.*
- d) Appropriate management options for achieving aims and objectives.*
- e) Prescriptions for management actions.*
- f) Boundary treatments and measures to avoid dumping of garden waste.*
- g) Preparation of a work schedule (including an annual work plan capable of being rolled forward over a five-year period).*
- h) Where appropriate details of the body or organization responsible for implementation of the plan.*
- i) Ongoing monitoring and remedial measures.*

The LEMP shall also include details of the legal and funding mechanism(s) by which the long-term implementation of the plan will be secured by the Owner with the management body responsible for its delivery. The plan shall also set out (where the results from monitoring show that conservation aims and objectives of the LEMP are not being met and how contingencies and/or remedial action will be identified, agreed, and implemented so that the development still delivers the fully functioning biodiversity objectives of the originally approved scheme. The approved plan will be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure that provision is made to allow satisfactory maintenance of the landscaping and biodiversity measures hereby approved. Relevant policy the NPPF Section 15, Core Strategy Policy CP3 and CP7 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policies TB21 and TB23.

An Annotated Site Plan (Figure 1) showing the various enhancement measures has been attached for reference.

¹ Nature Conservancy Council 1988 (reprinted 1991). Site management plans for nature conservation, a working guide.

² It is important to note that the consented scheme is for a single private residence and there is no Landscape Wildlife Area or Landscape Wildlife Corridor included in the scheme but a single private garden area.

Site Description and Proposals

The site is located off Johnson Drive in Finchampstead, centred at National Grid Reference: SU 805650 and covers approximately 0.11 of a hectare. The site comprised the existing garden area and access drive. The site was bordered by a continuation of the garden area to the east, a construction site to the north, residential dwelling and associated garden area to the south, and access road to the west.

The consented scheme is for the erection of 1 no. detached five bedroom dwelling with associated parking.

EVALUATION AND OBJECTIVES

The key enhancement measure will be the introduction of new, wildlife friendly planting, including trees and hedgerows, which will provide a range of habitats for local wildlife. Once established this will provide a range of habitats for local species and act as wildlife corridors, increasing connectivity between the site and neighbouring habitats. Additional measures will be to install a series of wildlife boxes at suitable locations on the site in order to enhance roosting/nesting/sheltering opportunities.

ECOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS AND CONTROLS

Overview

The site comprised the existing garden area and access drive of overall low ecological value. There are no habitats of international, national, county or local importance that would be directly affected by the proposals. Species recorded on the site can be described as common or abundant and are found in similar places across much of Britain. Although no evidence of protected species was recorded on the site, common species of reptiles (slow worm and grass snake) have been recorded on the adjacent development site [REDACTED]. In order to minimise disturbance to local wildlife and avoid contravention of current legislation the following controls will be applied during the ongoing management operations.

General Controls

The site owner is aware of current legislation protecting badgers, bats, nesting birds and reptiles. In the event that specialist advice is needed then a suitably experienced and qualified ecologist will be appointed, as necessary.

Badgers

Although no badger setts have been recorded, [REDACTED] the following standard controls will be implemented during and after works to minimise disturbance to badgers [REDACTED].

- all site operatives will be given a toolbox talk on the presence of badgers and the legal protection they and their setts are afforded (copy of a toolbox talk has been attached at Appendix A for reference);
- any temporary and permanent fencing to be installed on the site will be raised slightly off the ground (200 mm) or gaps provided, to allow badgers unrestricted access throughout the site;
- any deep excavations that are to be left open overnight will include a means of escape for any animals that may fall in, using planks of wood to act as ramps;
- where possible, works will be limited to the hours from dawn to one hour before sunset;
- where possible, the creation of large stock-piles of earth will be avoided as these may prove attractive for badgers to excavate new setts;
- no pipework should remain open with any exposed ends capped-off at the end of the working day to prevent any animals entering pipework. **N.B. Badgers can enter pipework as small as 250 mm in diameter and therefore all pipework should be capped-off in accordance with good practice;** and

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Bats

There are no buildings/structures on the site and no confirmed bat roosts. In the event any tree felling/pruning is required, then a check by a licenced bat worker should be completed prior to any works to ensure compliance with current legislation protecting bats and their roosts.

Nesting Birds

It should be noted that all species of wild bird and their nests are protected under the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)*. Therefore, management works to any areas of vegetation that could provide potential nesting habitat should be completed during the winter months or certainly timed to avoid the main bird nesting season, which, in general, runs from mid-February to September inclusive.

If this is not possible, a bird nesting survey will be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to any clearance works to ensure there are no active nests present. Once the site has been confirmed free of any active nests then the clearance works will be completed by the appointed contractors within 48-hours of the visual inspection.

Herpetofauna (Amphibians and Reptiles)

Due to the presence of reptiles adjacent to the site, all site personnel will be given a toolbox talk to inform them about the sensitivity of the works and the legal protection they are afforded (copy of a generic toolbox talk is attached at Appendix B). In addition, the following additional controls will also be implemented during the works, where practicable to do so:

- It may be necessary to install reptile proof fencing within certain areas of the site to prevent reptiles colonising areas of the site during the construction phase. This requirement would be determined by the on-site Ecologist.
- Cover any trenches overnight to prevent any animals falling into them.
- Do not leave any piles of bricks, tiles, building rubble etc close to the adjacent habitat as reptiles/amphibians may attempt to take refuge and/or overwinter in them.
- Store any building materials above ground on pallets.
- Any waste material will be placed into skips.
- Concrete will not be left unset overnight, or suitable barriers erected to prevent reptiles accessing the concrete.
- Excavations and working areas will be managed so that temporary waterbodies are not created.

PRESCRIPTIONS

Overview

A range of generic and site-specific measures have been provided below. An overarching summary table detailing the management prescriptions and checklist has been attached at Appendix C, with the intention to be rolled over for a five-year period. More detailed management and monitoring prescriptions including key objectives (based upon the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition Assessments) for each specific feature/habitat has been attached at Appendix D. It is the intention for these tables to be used on at least an annual basis during management operations.

General Principles

Boundary treatment - where possible, existing boundary vegetation will be retained and protected, with any new boundary treatment designed to promote permeability of the site to minimise fragmentation, allowing free movement of wildlife throughout the site. These measures will aim to strengthen habitat connectivity and

provide additional foraging habitat, cover and nesting opportunities for local wildlife. If close boarded fences are required for security reasons, these should be minimised and raised slightly off the ground (c. 150-200 mm) to allow animals to pass underneath, or installed with strategically placed gaps, to permit the free movement of hedgehogs and other wildlife.

Garden waste – garden waste of any description can introduce additional nutrients and other elements to the soil. It upsets the natural balance of habitats into which it is introduced, can introduce non-native invasive species, can smother important wildflowers and can encourage pests, such as rats. All material will be deposited off-site via the local authority's green waste collection service (if available) or composted within a designated on-site composting area.

Bat Boxes

In order to provide roosting opportunities for bats, a bat tube (Ibstock Enclosed Bat Box B, or equivalent) will be installed onto the new build. The box will be positioned in accordance with best practice and installed prior to occupation. Indicative location is shown on Figure 1 and a guidance document is attached at Appendix E. Although, bat boxes do not require regular cleaning, periodic maintenance checks should be carried out and in the event the box becomes damaged then it should be replaced as necessary (**Note: any works/checks to bat boxes might require a licensed bat worker**).

Bird Boxes

In order to enhance nesting opportunities for birds, a sparrow terrace (Schwegler Sparrow Terrace, or equivalent) will be installed onto the new build. There are no specific maintenance requirements for sparrow terraces, however inspection and cleaning can be carried out where appropriate, which should be timed during the winter months. The sparrow terrace will be positioned in accordance with best practice and installed prior to occupation. Indicative location is shown on Figure 1 and a guidance document is attached at Appendix E.

Hedgehog Gaps

In order to allow free movement of hedgehogs and other wildlife, enhancing connectivity with adjacent habitats, four hedgehog gaps will be installed at the boundaries of the new private garden and boundary fences of the site. The hedgehog gaps will be regularly checked and kept free from obstructions. Indicative locations are shown on Figure 1.

New Planting

As part of the overall landscape treatment of the site, planting will be carried out, details provided in the Proposed Plant Scheme by Treetop Landscapes Ltd (Drawing No. TTL-SMFB-042026 Rev. A attached at Figure 2 for reference). Such planting will include a variety of native and ornamental species of value to wildlife. In particular, flowering plants will be of benefit to invertebrate species and hedgerows and trees may provide nesting opportunities for birds once they become established.

A check of the new planting will be conducted, with replacement planting carried out where necessary. The planting will require minimal maintenance, with occasional weeding and pruning of plants where necessary. Shrub areas, planted for the benefit of invertebrates, should be covered with a mulch for water retention, which will aid flower/nectar production. Regular dead-heading of flowers will encourage further flowering, improving the supply of nectar for butterflies and other insects. At the end of the season, plants should not be pruned or dead-headed until later in the winter, allowing birds to feed on any seeds.

Hedge Planting

As part of the landscaping, new native hedgerows will be planted. Further details are shown on the Proposed Plant Scheme (Figure 2). The hedgerows will be of benefit to wildlife, providing a nectar source for insects when in flower, as well as enhancing habitat connectivity.

Management – annual checks of the new planting will be completed, with replacement planting carried out where necessary. Cutting of hedgerows will be carried out on a rotational basis with only a third cut in any one year, where practicable to do so. The hedgerows will be cut to a height of between 1.5 and 2.0 m. Any cutting/pruning will be timed during the late winter months. Late January/early February is ideal as the majority of the berries have been eaten but before the onset of the main bird nesting season. All arisings will be retained on site either as low brash or as chippings to act as a mulch, where practicable to do so.

Trees

A number of new trees will be planted on the site to complement the established trees to be retained, with species including hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), Himalayan birch (*Betula utilis jacquemontii*) and Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana Chanticleer*). Further details are shown on the Proposed Plant Scheme (Figure 2). Once established, the new trees will provide a food source for a variety of wildlife, including insects and birds, and bird nesting opportunities.

Management – annual check of new planting will be carried out, with replacement planting carried out where necessary. Once established, the trees may need periodic pruning, with any arisings retained on site either as low brash or as chippings to act as a mulch, where practicable to do so. Weeding will be carried out where necessary to ensure new planting establishes. The timing of any management should be carried out during the late winter months. January is ideal as the majority of the berries have been eaten, but before the onset of the main bird nesting season.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

A summary table and checklists of the various prescriptions to be implemented has been attached at Appendices C and D. An annual review of this management strategy will be carried out between those parties responsible for the management of the areas, to determine the effectiveness of the prescriptions and to identify any amendments or additional measures that may be necessary to the Plan. A record should be kept using the checklists attached in order to track the progress of management year by year and provide details of any remedial actions that are required for the following year.

Maintenance checks of the site will be carried out on a more regular basis, such as a check on fencing and replacement planting will be carried out as necessary.

Provision for not less than the first five years of completed Annual Monitoring Sheets before 31 October each year will be submitted to the Local Planning Authority. Any material amendments to the LEMP and all subsequent 5-yearly reviews and updates of the LEMP to be submitted to and agreed by the Local Planning Authority.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The owner (Mr Brant) will be responsible for the implementation of the measures as set out in this LEMP and for the ongoing management/maintenance checks, although contractors may be appointed for certain tasks as necessary. In the event that the plot is sold then a copy of this LEMP will be provided to the new homeowner so that they are aware of their responsibilities.

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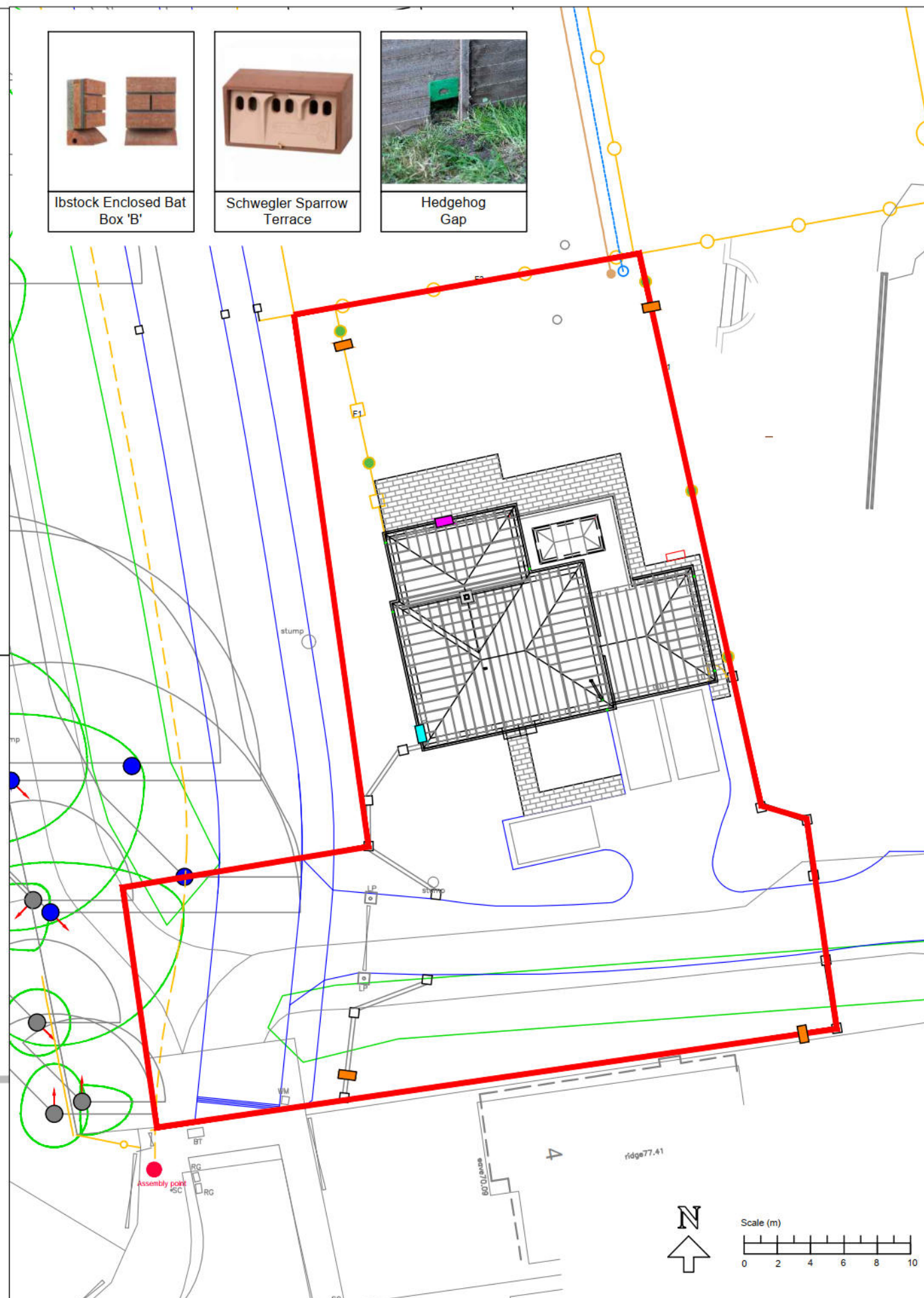
Figure 1
Annotated Site Plan



SIDE ELEVATION (WEST)



REAR ELEVATION (NORTH)



KEY

-  Site Boundary*
 Bat Tube*
 Sparrow Terrace*
 Hedgehog Gap*

* Indicative Location

Notes

Bat Tube
x1 Ibstock's Enclosed Bat Box B (or equivalent)

Bird Box
x1 Schwegler Sparrow Terraces (or equivalent)

Hedgehog Gap
x4 Hedgehog Gaps

Rev.	Details		Drawn	Date
			Chkd.	
Project 263070 6 Johnson Drive Finchampstead				
Title Annotated Site Plan				
 Environmental Consultants AA Environmental Ltd Units 4-8 Cholswell Court Shippon Abingdon Oxon OX13 6HX T: (01235) 536042 F: (01235) 523849 info@aae-ltd.co.uk www.aae-ltd.co.uk				
Scale	Date	Drg. No.		Rev.
As shown	22.07.26	Figure 1		
	Drawn NAB	Chkd. ARB		

Figure 2
Proposed Plant Scheme



Proposed Plant Scheme

Trees

3 Carpinus betulus	16-18cmg STD110L	CB
2 Betula utilis jacquemontii	16-18cmg STD110L	BJ
1 Pryus calleryana Chanticleer	16-18cmg STD	PC

Wall Shrubs

2 Pyracantha in variety	14L on frame	PY
1 Jasminum nudiflorum	14L on frame	JN
1 Chaenomeles in variety	14L on frame	CN
2 Ceanothus Trewithen Blue	14L on frame	CTB

Mixed Native Hedge - to be measured accurately on site

20m Purpose grown instant native hedge	1-1.2m	1m Trough	NH
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Front Garden

Bed A

2 Taxus baccata Ball	12L	40-50cm Ball
2 Photinia fr. Red Robin Bush	75L	1.75-2m
3 Choisya t. White Dazzler	7.5L	
3 Hebe Mette Bush	5L	
1 Euonymus jap. Bravo Bush	30L	
7 Euonymus f. Emerald Gaiety	2L	
6 Stipa tenuissima Grass	2L	

Bed A

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6 Stipa tenuissima Grass	2L	

Rear Garden

Bed C

6 Viburnum tinus Bush	10L	
6 Hydrangea pan. Limelight Bush	10L	
1 Mahonia m. Charity Bush	20L	0.8-1m
2 Philadelphus Belle Etoile Bush	10L	

Bed D

6 Ceanothus Autumnal Blue Bush	10L	
6 Escallonia Apple Blossom Bush	10L	
6 Abelia grandiflora Bush	10L	
9 Stipa tenuissima Grass	2L	

Bed E

6 Eleagnus Gilt Edge Bush	10L	
6 Lonicera n. Baggensens Gold Bush	5L	
6 Euonymus f. Emerald n Gold Bush	5L	



1 Northbury Cottages, Castle End Road,
Ruscombe, Berkshire, RG10 9XJ
(0118)9344132
nick@treetoplandscapes.co.uk
fiona@treetoplandscapes.co.uk

Mr Kevin Brant - Proposed detached
house - Adjacent Rosewells, Johnsons
Drive, Finchampstead, Berkshire.

Date: 30/04/2026

Scale: 1:200 @ A3

Drawing No: TTL-SMFB-042026

Rev A

Appendix A
Toolbox Talk (Badgers)

TOOLBOX TALK: BADGERS

Key Contact

AA Environmental Ltd, Units 4-8 Cholswell
Court, Shippon, Oxfordshire, OX13 6HX

Tel: 01235 536042

Did you know?

- Badgers are creatures of habit and live in social groups which occupy a territory.
- They often follow the same routes when moving around their territory and consequently can create well defined paths.
- Badgers are nocturnal and so are rarely seen during the day.

Identification

- The presence of badger setts is often a clear indicator that badgers are active within the area.
- Setts can be single holes or large complexes of holes. A badger sett can be told apart from rabbit warrens and fox earths by the size and shape of the hole. Badger holes are usually shaped like a sideward 'D', with bare earth around it. Rabbits hole tend to be 'O' shaped, and fox earths 'O' shaped.



Typical 'D' shaped badger holes.

Legislation

- Badgers and their setts are protected by the Protection of Badgers Act 1992.
- This makes it **illegal** to harm badgers or their setts.
- A sett is defined as *"any structure or place which displays signs indicating current use by a badger"*.
- Natural England define 'current use' as having been used at any point in the last month.

Site Controls

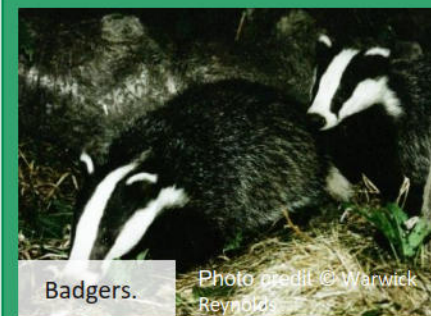
The following site controls should be implemented to reduce the level of disturbance to any badgers that may be present within close proximity to a construction site:

- Any deep excavations that remain open overnight must have a means of escape (e.g. a ramp), in case any animals fall in.
- Where possible, work will be carried out between dawn and one hour before sunset, with any lighting minimised, but without compromising safety.
- Any temporary fencing should be slightly raised off the ground (c. 200 mm), to allow badgers unrestricted access into and out of the site. The use of plastic tape should be avoided.
- Any obvious runs should **not** be blocked.
- Stockpiling of earth should be avoided, as these may prove attractive for badgers to excavate new setts.
- No pipework should remain open with any exposed ends capped-off at the end of the working day to prevent any animals entering pipework. N.B. Badgers can enter pipework as small as 250 mm in diameter and therefore all pipework should be capped-off in accordance with good practice.
- As badgers can excavate new setts, any fresh excavations recorded on the site should be immediately reported and fully investigated.

Badgers, like all wild animals, are dynamic and react to internal and external stimuli in ways which are not always predictable and can excavate new setts or re-occupy others, therefore, there is always a **risk** that they could be encountered during site works.

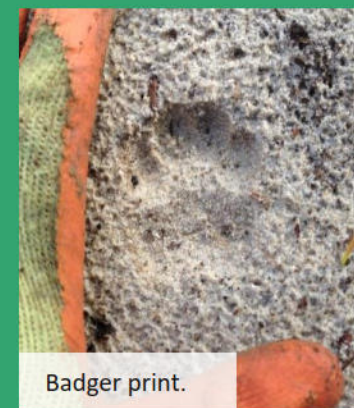
In the event that any holes are encountered then works should stop immediately and AAe contacted so that appropriate advice can be provided.

These controls have been put in place to protect all site operatives from breaking the law. You're not expected to be able to identify badgers or their presence so remember, **if in doubt shout and contact AAe** (details provided above).



Badgers.

Photo credit © Warwick Reynolds



Badger print.



Badger sett, note the fresh spoil heap, indicating it is in use.

Appendix B
Toolbox Talk (Reptiles)

TOOLBOX TALK: REPTILES

Did you know?

- There are six species of reptile native to the UK, three of which are snakes and three are lizards.
- Smooth snakes and Sand lizards are very rare and are presently restricted to a few localised areas.
- Adders, Grass snakes, Common lizards and Slow-worms are widespread and found in a number of different urban and rural habitats across the UK.
- All reptiles are ectothermic. This means they rely upon the sun's heat for warmth. As a result, you may find reptiles basking in sunny places. If it becomes too warm they will seek shade, to avoid overheating.
- Reptiles movement will be slower in cooler conditions.
- Reptiles hibernate during the winter and may not wake up if disturbed. This makes them vulnerable to site works during winter months.
- Reptiles depend upon a varied habitat for survival. They need basking spots, shade, protection from predators, food resources and somewhere to hibernate!

Identification

- Reptiles may be found in a variety of habitats within a site. Most species favour scrubland, heathland or long grassland. Railway embankments are also highly favoured.
- On the right are photos of the reptiles you are most likely to encounter on a site, if any.
- Adders can be distinguished from Grass snakes by the diamond (or jagged) stripe running down the centre of their back.
- Slow-worms look a lot like a snake but are in fact legless lizards! They tend to be light brown/golden in colour, with a smooth appearance.
- Common lizards are fast-moving, but may be sighted from a distance when basking.

Legislation

- All reptile species are protected under UK law.
- This makes it **illegal** to intentionally or recklessly kill or injure and protects them against sale and transporting for sale.

Site Controls

- There is always a **risk** that as reptiles move through the habitat that they could be encountered during site works.
- **If any reptiles are encountered during works the following controls must be applied to avoid breaking the law:**
 1. If reptiles are discovered/suspected works must stop **immediately**, with any reptiles left in-situ and AAe immediately contacted (contact details above).
 2. During works, operatives must wear gloves in case of accidental contact with reptiles.
 3. Site operative must not intentionally handle reptiles.
 4. Care must be taken when moving logs, stones or rubble. These are favoured habitats for reptiles and they may be found sheltering underneath.
 5. Stockpiling of materials is only permitted within designated areas. Any building materials must be stored above ground on pallets and any waste material must be placed into skips, to prevent the risk of reptiles taking refuge within them.
 6. Trenches must be covered overnight to prevent animals falling into them.

These controls have been put in place to protect all site operatives from breaking the law. You are not expected to be able to identify reptiles or their presence so remember, **if in doubt shout and contact the relevant person.**

Key Contact

AA Environmental Ltd, Units 4-8 Cholswell Court, Shippon, Oxfordshire, OX13 6HX

Tel: 01235 536042



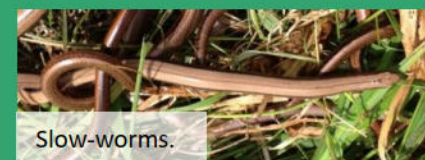
Adder.



Grass snake.



Pair of Common lizards.



Slow-worms.

Appendix C

Management Prescriptions and Checklist Summary

Management Prescriptions and Checklist Summary

Overall Management Objectives		Enhance nesting/roosting opportunities for birds, bats and invertebrates. Protect, maintain and enhance the retained habitats and newly planted-up areas. Introduce new native and wildlife-friendly planting within the site to provide a connected range of habitats for local wildlife. Provide enhanced habitats and features of value for a range of species. Sympathetic management of the site to take into account the continued presence of protected species and other wildlife																																																																			
General Management Operations		All garden waste will be deposited off site using the council's green waste recycling or retained in dedicated compost area(s). Annual inspection of all planting with replacement planting as necessary. Annual check of wildlife boxes (during the winter months) with cleaning and repairs completed as necessary (Note: any works/checks to bat boxes might require suitably licensed individuals).																																																																			
Specific Habitat Operations		<table><tr><th colspan="2" rowspan="2"></th><th rowspan="2">Management Operations</th><th colspan="5">Year from Start</th></tr><tr><th>1</th><th>2</th><th>3</th><th>4</th><th>5</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Hedgerows</td><td>Cutting of hedgerows will be carried out on a rotational basis with only a third cut in any one year, where practicable to do so. Any cutting/pruning will be timed during the late winter months. All arisings will be retained on site either as low brash or as chippings to act as a mulch.</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">2</td><td rowspan="2">Trees</td><td>Trees may need pruning and or pollarding. Any pruning will be timed during the late winter months. All arisings will be retained on site either as low brash or as chippings to act as a mulch.</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td></tr><tr><td>Remove redundant tree support systems once trees are fully established.</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>✓</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">LEMP Review</td><td>Review of the LEMP and take into consideration any other objectives/initiatives in consultation with interested parties. Amend as necessary.</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Management work completed by:</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Initials of Homeowner:</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>			Management Operations	Year from Start					1	2	3	4	5	1	Hedgerows	Cutting of hedgerows will be carried out on a rotational basis with only a third cut in any one year, where practicable to do so. Any cutting/pruning will be timed during the late winter months. All arisings will be retained on site either as low brash or as chippings to act as a mulch.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2	Trees	Trees may need pruning and or pollarding. Any pruning will be timed during the late winter months. All arisings will be retained on site either as low brash or as chippings to act as a mulch.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Remove redundant tree support systems once trees are fully established.					✓	LEMP Review		Review of the LEMP and take into consideration any other objectives/initiatives in consultation with interested parties. Amend as necessary.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									Management work completed by:								Initials of Homeowner:							
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Appendix D

Specific Management Prescriptions and Checklists

Species Specific Provision – Installation of bird and bat boxes on trees and into the new builds.												
Management Action		Prescriptions										
Hedgehog Gaps		Four hedgehog gaps will be installed at the boundaries of the new private gardens and boundary fences of the site. The hedgehog gaps will be regularly checked and kept free from obstructions. Indicative locations are shown on Figure 1.										
Bird Boxes		A single sparrow terrace (Schwegler Sparrow Terrace, or equivalent) will be installed onto the new build. There are no specific maintenance requirements for sparrow terraces, however inspection and cleaning can be carried out where appropriate, which should be timed during the winter months. All boxes will be positioned in accordance with best practice and installed prior to occupation. Indicative locations are shown on Figure 1 and a guidance document is attached at Appendix E.										
Bat Boxes		A single bat tube (Ibstock Enclosed Bat Box B, or equivalent) will be installed onto the new build. The box will be positioned in accordance with best practice and installed prior to occupation. Indicative locations are shown on Figure 1 and a guidance document is attached at Appendix E. Although, bat boxes do not require regular cleaning periodic maintenance checks should be carried out with any damaged boxes replaced as necessary (Note: any works/checks to bat boxes might require a licensed bat worker).										
Management Prescriptions Timing												
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bird box cleaning												
Maintenance checks												
Management work completed. Any amendments/comments should be provided below and continued on further sheets if necessary.												
Work completed by:												
Initials of Homeowner:												

Hedgerows - As part of the landscaping, new native hedgerows will be planted. Further details are shown on the Proposed Plant Scheme (Figure 2). The hedgerows will be of benefit to wildlife, providing a nectar source for insects when in flower, as well as enhancing habitat connectivity.

Condition Assessment Criteria	Management Action	Prescriptions
Height of between 1.5 – 2.0 m along length; >1.2 m average width along length; Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length	Cutting	Cutting of hedgerows will be carried out on a rotational basis with only a third cut in any one year, where practicable to do so. The hedgerows will be cut to a height of between 1.5 and 2.0 m. Any cutting/pruning will be timed during the late winter months. Late January/early February is ideal as the majority of the berries have been eaten but before the onset of the main bird nesting season. All arisings will be retained on site either as low brash or as chippings to act as a mulch, where practicable to do so.
Gaps make up <10% of total length; and no canopy gaps <5 m	Top-up planting	Annual checks of the new planting will be completed, with replacement planting carried out where necessary. Newly planted hedgerows need watering regularly for the first 6 months. After it will only be necessary to water during excessively dry spells.
>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length	Restricted mowing	A strip of ground beneath the hedgerows will always be left unmown.
Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground (nettles, cleavers + docks)	Maintenance	Allow hedge bottom species to become established, with occasional cutting to reduce dominance of non-target species.
>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species and recently introduced species	Ongoing invasive species monitoring	Spot control of invasive and recently introduced species will be required to maintain the target species within the hedgerow, may need to be carried out but any treatment will be completed by suitably trained and licensed contractors who are fully aware of the presence of reptiles.
>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities	Maintenance checks	Annual checks of the new planting will be completed, with replacement planting carried out where necessary.

Management Prescriptions Timing

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cutting schedule												
Maintenance checks												
Invasive species check												
Replacement planting												

Management work completed. Any amendments/comments should be provided below and continued on further sheets if necessary.

Work completed by:

Initials of Homeowner:

Trees - A number of new trees will be planted on the site to complement the established trees to be retained. Once established, the new trees will provide a food source for a variety of wildlife, including insects and birds, and bird nesting opportunities.

Condition Assessment Criteria	Management Action	Prescriptions
The tree is a native species (or at least 70% within the block are native species).	Planting	Species planted will include hornbeam (<i>Carpinus betulus</i>), Himalayan birch (<i>Betula utilis jacquemontii</i>) and Callery pear (<i>Pryus calleryana Chanticleer</i>). Further details are shown on the Proposed Plant Scheme (Figure 2).
The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature).	Watering	Remove redundant tree support systems once trees are fully established. Newly planted trees need watering regularly for the first 6 months to increase chance of reaching maturity. After it will only be necessary to water during excessively hot / dry spells. Trees may need pruning to help reach maturity. Any pruning will be timed during the late winter months. All arisings will be retained on site either as low brash or as chippings to act as a mulch.
Little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by human activities (such as vandalism, herbicide, etc.)	Tree maintenance	Annual check of new planting will be carried out, with replacement planting carried out where necessary. Once established, the trees may need periodic pruning, with any arisings retained on site either as low brash or as chippings to act as a mulch, where practicable to do so. Weeding will be carried out where necessary to ensure new planting establishes. The timing of any management should be carried out during the late winter months. January is ideal as the majority of the berries have been eaten, but before the onset of the main bird nesting season.
More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath	Management	Areas directly underneath tree canopies will be left clear and not used for storage etc. When the planting starts to mature, periodic thinning of trees might be required to prevent competition.

Management Prescriptions Timing

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Pruning (species dependent)												
Planting checks												
Replacement planting if required												

Management work completed. Any amendments/comments should be provided below and continued on further sheets if necessary.

Work completed by:

Initials of Homeowner:

Appendix E
Bird and Bat Box Guidance Document

BIRD AND BAT BOX/TUBE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Overview

The boxes/tubes used should be made of woodcrete material¹ (or equivalent) wherever possible and be positioned in accordance with good practice. All of the boxes can be obtained from the following suppliers:

Jacobi Jayne www.jacobijayne.co.uk

Wildcare www.wildcare.co.uk

NHBS www.nhbs.com

Bird Box Installation Guidance

The requirements for nest boxes vary between species. However there are some general rules to follow:

- Boxes should be located in a sheltered position out of strong sunlight, wind and rain. Generally this means that the box should be positioned somewhere between the north east and south east side of a structure.
- For extra shelter, smaller boxes should be positioned at a slight forward angle.
- Large open boxes should be angled upwards when mounted to allow the nest to rest naturally at the back of the box.
- Boxes should be positioned out of the reach of predators where possible (e.g. cats).
- A density of around 10 bird boxes per hectare is acceptable.
- Position boxes away from bird tables and other feeding areas where possible.

Bat Box/tube Installation Guidance

- Boxes should be located in a sheltered position, out of strong wind, but exposed to sunlight for part of the day to provide solar warming.
- When installed on trees, where possible boxes should be put up in groups of two or three, facing in different directions to allow bats access to a range of temperature conditions. Furthermore, it is recommended that, to avoid competition for bat boxes, bird boxes should also be installed on the same trees².
- It should be ensured that the entrance hole to the box is kept clear, so that bats can access it freely.
- Ideally bat boxes should be positioned near linear vegetation (e.g. a hedgerow).
- When installing boxes on trees, the ideal position is at around 5 metres or more.
- On buildings, boxes should be positioned high up by the eaves to avoid bats being predated by cats and other predators.
- Boxes should be installed out of the direct line of artificial lighting, both current and to be installed.

References

1. Du Feu, C. (1993). *Nestboxes BTO Guide No. 23*. BTO, Thetford.
2. The Bat Conservation Trust (2003). *Bat Boxes - Your Questions Answered*.
3. Meddings, A., Taylor, S., Batty, L., Green, R., Knowles, M., Latham, D. (2011). Managing competition between birds and bats for roost boxes in small woodlands, north-east England. *Conservation Evidence*, 8, pg. 74-80.

¹ Woodcrete is a blend of cement and sawdust. This material is found to be as successful as wooden bat boxes/tubes with greater durability and longevity. Schwegler bat boxes/tubes are constructed from this material.

² Research carried out by Meddings *et al.* (2011) suggests that installing bird and bat boxes on the same tree will reduce the likelihood of birds nesting in bat boxes and thus preventing a reduction in roosting opportunities for bats.